

# Wesley's Telegram

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## LETTERS OF WESLEY.

Chiefly from the Papers of Adam Clarke.

BY SAMUEL DUNN.

Wesley was, in all respects, an extraordinary man. Among his many other excellences, he was an unexampled economist of time. With him no moments were ever unemployed or unimproved. He preached fifteen sermons and traveled one hundred miles, chiefly on horseback, every week, for above fifty years. The books he read were innumerable, and his writings very voluminous. Any one of these labors were sufficient to have kept an ordinary individual busy through life. His correspondence was very extensive. About nine hundred of his letters have been collected and given to the public in the complete and uniform edition of his works, sold by D. & H. Cook, and Carlton & Porter. A few others, from the same ready pen, have fortunately come into our possession. These do not seem to have been valued by the numerous readers of Dr. HENRICH. They are distinguished by the same discriminating judgment, refined taste, general knowledge, devout but cheerful spirit, attention to the wants of his fellow laborers, and tender and paternal concern for the lambs of the flock, as were displayed in all the other writings and labors of this master in our Israel.

A man who could have felt at their own play, a veteran soldier in the Christian field, who never saw the sword he could not wield.

TO THOMAS TAYLOR.  
“Dear Thomas, I speak with you as a brother. I believe John Patton to be a better assistant than either you or I. I believe he has more of the Spirit of God resting upon him, and is more devoted to God, than almost any man or woman I know. And I do not think myself a jot better than he because I was born forty years before him.”

“Your affectionate friend and brother.”

Taylor entered the ministry 1761, and died 1816; a sterling character, sound views, laborious preacher, and vice president of the Conference. John Patton labored from 1775 to 1794, educated a Romanist, brought to God and Methodism through the instrumentality of Wesley, deeply pious and extensively useful.

TO AN UNKNOWN FRIEND.

White, a class leader in Yorkshire, had disagreed with his members, and complained of their refractoriness to Wesley, who sent him the following letter:

“John White, whoever is wrong, you are not right. I am yours, JOHN WESLEY.”

TO SIR LUDOVICK GALT.

“Elgin, May 13, 1784. Dear Sir—Considering the critical situation of your health, I cannot but drop you a line before I go southward. Your case is dangerous, but not desperate, provided you have resolution to follow a few rules. I will give you leave to set them down, without any preface, as the result of long experience. 1. Without fail, go out twice a day in your carriage, or exercise in better for you than a card of medicine. 2. On no account, let any impurity whatever, eat or drink more than your stomach calls for. 3. Do not let your mind be too full. You would be no worse if you took no food at all. You would be no worse if you took nothing but tea and milk, with as much bread as you valued. It is not what you eat, but what you strengthen you, but only what you digest. If you value yourself, eat and drink nothing but what your stomach stands to. I fear nothing but what you should force nature. 3. I beseech you watch against fretting, against grieving, and against anger. These would hurt your body and your mind. In your patience possess your soul. It is true you have very great temptations, but the grace of God is sufficient for you. O, sir, for what does the God of all grace send you so many afflictions, and in particular, this lingering illness? Is it not for this very end to make you not, almost, but altogether a Christian? To wean you from the world and worldly company; to fix your desire on things above. You are a sinner. You want a Saviour, and he is at hand, just ready to visit you with his salvation. May, He do to-day! So prays, dear Sir, your affectionate friend, JOHN WESLEY.”

TO JOSEPH THOMPSON.

Grant's residence was an old castle, Orange Green, near Tones, Scotland, where Wesley had been hospitably entertained.

TO DUNCAN MALLUM.

“New London, Oct. 24, 1785. Dear Duncan—It will be a comfortable place for Peter Mills, and I trust he will be more useful than ever. Yet I was afraid he would be straitened for money. So I have drawn a little note on Mr. Rickard with a favor, who keeps the God of all grace send you so many afflictions, and in particular, this lingering illness? Is it not for this very end to make you not, almost, but altogether a Christian? To wean you from the world and worldly company; to fix your desire on things above. You are a sinner. You want a Saviour, and he is at hand, just ready to visit you with his salvation. May, He do to-day! So prays, dear Sir, your affectionate friend, JOHN WESLEY.”

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of the love of God? Did you ever know him as a God of pardoning love? If you did, in what manner did you first receive that knowledge? You may write as simply and as artlessly to me as you please, for I am no critic; and besides I love you too well to criticize upon anything that you say. Therefore you may write without any reserve to my dear Nancy. Yours affectionately.

Nancy was the amiable daughter of Thomas Taylor, one of Wesley's early and faithful coadjutors; and when I knew her the judicious wife of honest Robert Miller, and their accomplished daughter was for many years at the head of a respectable Seminary in Burlington, England.

TO MISS TAYLOR.

“London, June, 1787. Dear Nancy—I felt a particular concern for you ever since you were a little one, and more particularly from that time when I had some conversation with you in York. I observed even then that you had a real desire to love and serve God; and I am in hopes that desire will never decay, but rather grow stronger and stronger. Your great temptation will be, especially while you are young, to seek happiness in some creature. It is well if you are not entangled already. If you do not already begin to seek my life with this, that person! Vain thought! Happiness is not in man, nor in any creature under heaven!”

“Search the whole creation round, Can it out of God be found?”

“No; when you begin to know God as your God, then, and not before, you begin to love him; and how much more when you love him; and as you increase in loving him, your happiness will increase in the same proportion. Steer steady to this point, keep the issues of your heart. By Almighty grace, keep yourself from idols. To converse freely with one or two sensible friends, who are deeply devoted to God, will be an unspeakable help in your way. And private prayer you must never omit. Next to the Bible, the books you might profit by would be Mr. Law's works, and some of the sermons. I am now going to Bristol. I hope to be at Birmingham on the 24th inst., and at Macclesfield on the 30th. O! be earnest, my dear Nancy, and whenever you have a mind, write to Yours affectionately.”

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TO MISS TAYLOR.

“London, June, 1787. Dear Nancy—I felt a particular concern for you ever since you were a little one, and more particularly from that time when I had some conversation with you in York. I observed even then that you had a real desire to love and serve God; and I am in hopes that desire will never decay, but rather grow stronger and stronger. Your great temptation will be, especially while you are young, to seek happiness in some creature. It is well if you are not entangled already. If you do not already begin to seek my life with this, that person! Vain thought! Happiness is not in man, nor in any creature under heaven!”

“Search the whole creation round, Can it out of God be found?”

“No; when you begin to know God as your God, then, and not before, you begin to











## Advertisements.

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